THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. However, (i) Telegrams relating to information of Death, and (ii) ordinary Telegrams relating to private personal matters such as, Sickness, Arrivals and Departure, Interviews and appointments and examination results, are accepted during night hours.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Booking of ordinary Telegrams during night hours causes delay in their disposal due to restricted working hours of Departmental Telegraph Offices and Combined Offices, and limited staff available during night hours in other offices.

Import of viscose staple fibre plant

4631. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian company is permitted to import viscose staple fibre plant; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether any indigenous industry has the capacity and technology to produce the plant in the private sector; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for allowing the import of such plant?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) No Indian Company has been permitted to import viscose staple fibre plant in the recent past.

(b) In the private sector, M/s. Grasim Industries Ltd. have claimed to have developed capacity to produce such plants.

(c) Question does not arise in view of the position explained above.

Production of soft coke by private Sector

4633. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Coal India Limited to allow the private sector to produce soft coke; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE: IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. private entrepreneurs are encouraged to manufacture Special Smokeless Fuel (SSF) using technology developed by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Ranchi for which they have prepared project Reports envisaging capacities between 50 to 500 tonnes per day.

Assessment of amounts against drug companies

4632. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount assessed against each of the involved drug companies following the judgement of the Supremourt;

(b) the authority which assessed the amount and whether a copy

of the findings would be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) the names of the Members of the Committee and whether this committee is still functioning;

(d) what are the names of the companies against which the amount is yet to be assessed; and

(e) what are the names of the drug companies whose cases have been finalised and the amounts assessed in respect of the drugs not concerned with the Supreme Court litigation alongwith the progress of recovery in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b) The special team constituted by the Govt. have assessed tentatively the following amounts recoverable from 7 companies.

(1)	M/s. Cyanamid (I) Ltd..	389 06
(2)	M/s. John Wyeth(I)	133.46
(3)	M/s. Hoechst (I) Ltd.,	458.10
(4)	M/s. Geoffrey Manners	28.37
(5)	M/s. Franco Indian	11.02
(6)	M/s. Ethnor Ltd.,	8.15
(7)	M/s. Pfizer Ltd.,	48.21

(c) The members of the special team are:—

1. Shri. S. Guria, Dy. Sect. Deptt. of Chemicals & Petro-Chemicals.
2. Shri R.N. Tandon, Jt. Director, Deptt. of Chemicals & Petro-Chemicals.
3. Shri C.L. Arora, Dy. Director (Cost) from B.I.C.P.
4. Shri Ashok Chopra, Sr. Investigator Deptt. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals.

The special team is still functioning.

(d) Information to the extent available is given below.

(1) M/s. Anil Starch Ltd.,

(2) M/s. Merind Ltd.,

(3) M/s. Tamilnadu Dadha Pharmaceuticals.

(4) M/s. S.G. Pharmaceuticals Ltd.,

(e) Information to the extent available is given in the Statement (*See* below). M/s. Fulford (India) Ltd., has paid Rs. 51 lakhs as per the direction of the Court. No other company has paid any amount till date as the parties have disputed the amount.

Statement

Details of tentative amounts assessed and recoverable under para 7(2) of DPCO, 1979 :

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Tentative amount assessed (Rs.)
1	2	3
	RIFAMPICIN	
1.	Biochem Pharmaceuticals	34,27,875.95
2.	Lyka Labs	57,56,747.72
3.	Astra IDL Ltd.	24,10,758.96

1	2	3
4.	Micro Labs	2,23,725.95
5.	Themis Chemicals Ltd.	36,30,838.00
6.	Alembic Chemicals Labs	38,72,747.98
7.	Bombay Drug House	1,73,061 00
8.	Pharmed Pvt. Ltd.	68,00,776 80
9.	Dolphin Labs	18,10,988.20
10.	Albert David Ltd.	3,91,419.00
11.	Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals Ind.	87,99,326 50
12.	Cadila Labs. P Ltd.	76,52,433 00
13.	Sarabhai Chemicals	4,13,986.48
14.	Lupin Labs	2,15,89,000.00
15.	Ranbaxy Labs	47,77,652.40
16.	Wallace Pharmaceuticals	2,82,071.00
17.	Ethico Drug & Chemical Mfg. Co.	1,40,97,889.00
	DIPHYRIDAMOL	
1.	M/s. German Remedies	59,95,039.00
	GENTAMYCIN	
1.	M/s. Fulford I Ltd. (Court Case)	194 62 lace
2.	M/s. Biochem Pharma Ltd.	33.88 lace
3.	M's. Lyka labs Ltd.	27.47 lace

Price increase on vitamins by Pfizer Ltd.

4603. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the companies which filed writ petitions in the Bombay High Court against the prices of vitamins;

(b) what was the price fixed for each formulation and what was the price charged by each company;

(c) what was the decision of the High Court in each case and when and in what form the decision was challenged by his Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that without waiting for the decision of the High Court his Ministry has allowed price increase by Pfizer Ltd.;

(e) what is the price fixed for each formulation now and what were the special reasons for resorting to out of court settlement; and

(f) whether the matter would be investigated into through an impartial agency?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) To the extent information is available names of the companies, who had filed writ petitions in the Bombay High Court against the prices of their various multi-vitamin products are given below:

1. M/s. Sandoz (India) Ltd.
2. M/s. Abbott Labs. (P) Ltd.
3. M/s. Pfizer Ltd.
4. M/s. Warner Hindustan.
5. M/s. Parke Davis.